

Webster Police Department

357 Main Street, Webster, MA 01570 Phone: 508-943-1212 • Fax: 508-949-3898 www.websterpolice.com

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NN ON NORPORATED STEP

Community Committed

Deputy Chief Rodney L. Budrow Lieutenant Michael D. Shaw

PRESS RELEASE

Date: August 18, 2015

To: All Media Outlets

From: Lt. Michael Shaw

Re: Animal Cruelty Investigation

On August 17, 2015 at approximately 5:30pm, Webster Police Officer Robert Ela, a member of the Town of Webster Housing Task Force was requested to assist the Webster Animal Control Officer, Webster Building Commissioner, and Webster Health Agent at 6 Cody Street on a report of possible deceased animals inside the residence.

Upon arrival, Officer Ela was able to detect a strong odor of possible decay coming from the residence. Additional Webster Police Officers responded to the scene and following contact being made with the building owner, entry was made. Due to the conditions being observed, hazardous material suits had to be worn to make entry.

Animal Control Officers located a total of 29 animals within the residence including 21 dogs, several cats, and several birds. Deplorable conditions were found with animal feces and urine throughout the residence and the crates in which some animals were contained. One deceased dog was found on scene.

The building owner, Beatrice Nielsen, 50 years old of Auburn was taken into custody at the scene and transported to the Webster Police Department for processing. She was later released on personal recognizance to appear in Dudley District Court on Tuesday, August 18, 2015.

Nielsen is charged with 29 counts of Cruelty to Animal by Custodian.

Webster Police were assisted at the scene by the Webster Fire Department, Webster EMS, Webster Animal Control, Webster Building Commissioner, Webster Health Department, and Oxford Animal Control.



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